

A.B. AUSTIN HOUSE  
PARIS - ILLINOIS

HABS. NO. ILL-280

HABS  
ILL

23. PAR

15

*Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings*

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
DISTRICT NO. ILL. 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
• EDGAR E. LUNDEEN DISTRICT OFFICER •  
CORN BELT BANK BUILDING BLOOMINGTON ILL.

A. B. AUSTIN HOUSE  
Paris, Edgar County, Illinois

Owner. A. W. Austin.

Date of Erection. 1854.

Architect. Unknown.

Builder. Isaac LeGrande.

Present Condition. The structure stands as originally built. With the exception of a few minor repairs, the building is in good condition. The entire roof has, within the last few years, been covered with an asphalt roofing paper. This was applied over the original wood shingles.

Number of Stories. Two.

Materials of Construction. The building is of wood construction with a foundation of brick masonry. There is no basement. The first floor joists rest on 8" x 10" oak sills and are of 2" x 8" oak, eighteen inches on centers. All studding are 2" x 4". The exterior on the original portion is covered with weatherboarding,  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " to the weather. The rest of the exterior is finished with 1" x 10" vertical boards, weather sealed with  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " battens. The interior throughout is finished with hand-split, oak lath, covered with plaster and wallpaper. All interior trim and floors are white pine wide boards.

The rafters are 2" x 4" oak, 2'-0" on centers. The roof is supported by oak timbers in skeleton form. The rafters are covered by 1" thick, random width, sheathing

boards and wood shingles. Recently a covering of asphalt roofing paper has been added.

Other Existing Records. None known.

Additional Data. The A. B. Austin house was erected in 1854, by Judge A. B. Austin, an early settler of Paris, Illinois. The rear portion was built first, but soon after its erection the two front additions were started. They were completed by 1855. The addition was larger than the original building, and shows clearly the Gothic revival spirit prevalent in the east about this date.

Reference: History of Edgar County.

Loren Van Heegraft

(Approved) W. S. Lunden  
District Officer

The History